

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12 and 14 were pending. Claims 1-4, 6-10, and 12 have been presently cancelled without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in other applications. Applicant notes that Claim 13 was cancelled by the amendment of September 15, 2003. Claims 15-18 have been added. Thus, Claims 14-18 are currently pending.

New Claims 15-18, which depend from currently pending Claim 14, are fully supported by the specification and claims as originally filed. In particular, the new claims are analogous to the subject matter of original Claim 7, but depend from Claim 14 rather than Claim 1. As such, no new matter has been added by these claim amendments.

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over an English abstract of Chinese Patent Publication No. 1149481 by L. Guo. Similarly, Claims 1-4 and 6-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over *A Handbook of Chinese Healing Herbs* by Daniel Reid, pages 206-207.

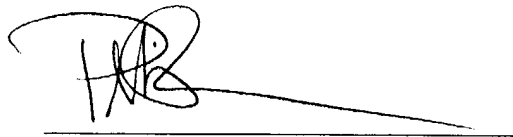
Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in other applications. As such, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of these claims.

On the basis of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims 14-18 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

A34641-PCT-USA (071838.0130)
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No fee is believed to be due in connection with this submission. However, should any fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account 02-4377. Any required extension of time is hereby requested. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS LLP

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Rochelle K. Seide
Patent Office Reg. No. 32,300

Peter J. Shen
Patent Office Reg. No. 52,217

Attorneys for Applicant
(212) 408-2500

30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112-4498